

Threatened and Endangered Species in Forests of Wisconsin

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SMALL SHINLEAF

(*Pyrola minor*)

Federal Status: Not Listed

State Status: Endangered

Description: Only 8 inches tall, small shinleaf has waxy, evergreen leaves that are round, thick, and hairless. Most of the leaves originate at the base of the plant. In June to early August, small shinleaf produces 10 to 12 pale pink, nodding, globe-like blossoms on a single stalk.

Habitat: Small shinleaf grows in high-quality boreal forests. Such forests are characterized by acid soil and a variety of coniferous tree species. Cool summers, high humidity and abundant winter snow cover are typical in this habitat.



Forestry Considerations: True boreal forests are quite rare in Wisconsin. They are found only near the shore of Lake Superior and to a lesser extent on the Door County peninsula. Single-tree selection silviculture would be best to maintain the cool temperatures and high humidity that the small shinleaf requires.

